

The Middletown Transcript

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

AT

Middleton, New Castle County, Delaware

PUBLISHED BY

T. S. FOURACRE.

LONG DISTANCE PHONE NO. 37.

Entered at the Post Office as second-class matter

MIDDLETOWN, DEL., DEC. 10, 1904.

EXPENSIVE AND CUMBERSOME

Two cases that were decided by the Court of General Sessions last Saturday well illustrate the costliness and unwholesomeness of our present system of trying accused persons. One of the cases, the first tried, was that of two colored men charged with larceny of a horse and carriage in Middletown. For ten days the witnesses in this case were kept in attendance, as well as the accused men. The trial itself occupied about an hour, and the jury acquitted the men after a few minutes deliberation. The cost to the county in witness fees for this case was \$270. The other case was that of a hotel-keeper of Odessa, accused of selling liquor to minors. The case dragged along the same length of time and was even more expensive than the first one, as there were more witnesses. It also resulted in acquittal.

It certainly does seem that there could be some means adopted that would secure better and quicker, and surely less expensive, action by the Court. It may not be possible under our present system. But such waste of public moneys is undoubtedly wrong. There should be some minor Court that could try and dispose of minor cases. The idea of requiring three learned Judges and twelve men from all over this county, to determine the question as to whether a certain man was or was not drunk on a certain occasion, or whether a certain man did or did not ask a certain boy if he was 21 years old, before selling him intoxicating liquor. Justices of the Peace might be clothed with authority to empanel a jury of six or more or less, to pass upon trivial cases and the higher Court might help the matter along under present conditions by fixing a time when cases shall be tried, and then trying them. To put off and put off is not good for the accused, and if the verdict is not guilty the State is able to spend the time in getting the attendance of all witnesses, but the men are not so able.

The State will summon and compel the presence of the defense's witnesses, but when a case drags as did the two above referred to, (and they are not exceptional) men get tired and careless, and when they find that there is a prospect that they may not get paid for their time and expenses, they sometimes run the risk of contempt of Court and fail to appear when the case does reach the jury. No better work can be done by the next General Assembly than to give this matter serious attention.

HONEST ELECTION!

Will the Republicans, both Regular and Union, expend another large corruption fund at the special election for Representative to be held in the Thirteenth district on December 27th? If they do not, the Democratic candidate will be elected without question. And if they do, the Democrats should be on the lookout for testimony which will send some of the depilers of the ballot to the workhouse."

The Every Evening, as appears from the above seems to be very much concerned about the manner in which the Republicans of St. Georges Hundred propose to conduct the coming special election. We desire to re-affirm what we have stated before, that in spite of all obstacles, and temptations to do otherwise, the Republicans of the hundred are now and ever have been in favor of honest elections and have so conducted their campaigns in the past and propose so to do in the future, not only for this special election but all coming election. No reputable Democrat of this hundred dare say otherwise. In order to be in a position to answer the above question, we have interviewed the acknowledged Republican leaders of St. Georges Hundred and have been assured that not one dollar will be expended for any illegal or illegitimate purpose. Can or will any one say as much for the Democracy? Had that party been only half way honest in their efforts to have an honest election on November 8th, there would have been no need for a special election. For the first time in recent years the

will of the people of St. Georges Hundred was on that day defeated by fraud, corruption and intimidation. Such actions will not be permitted to go unpunished this time.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"President Roosevelt's message is altogether out of the old rut. It is the product at once of an original student and a progressive executive. It is full of thoughtful, we might say philosophical, discussion, and it bristles with administrative purpose. Instead of being a dry, jejune summary of Department reports it is a juicy, fecund development of public themes which appeal to an active and penetrating mind, not always in logical order. At the same time there is no overshadowing topic, nothing startling, nothing for agitation, no new departure, no disturbing movement. It could be made shorter if it were less fertile and duller if it followed the stereotyped form."

"The message opens with a discussion of the relations of capital and labor, breaks like a rapid-firing gun into two or three of the President's quick suggestions, and then returns to labor and capital. The treatment is in the President's direct and characteristic spirit of fair play all around. Capital is to be sustained, but not to be grasping and oppressive. Labor is to be encouraged, but not to be violent and intolerant. A stringent employers' liability law is recommended wherever the Federal power extends. We have medals of honor for heroic service at sea, the President proposes them for similar service on land. The Bureau of Labor has done good work and will become more useful. A special report on the Beef Trust is coming. Corporations are not to be antagonized as such, but regulated for the public interest. The National Government alone can deal effectively with those engaged in interstate commerce. More important than any legislation is the growth of full respect on the part of each element for the rights of all the others. It is urged that the abuse of rebates must be stopped and the question is raised whether the power of the Bureau of Corporations ought not to be extended to the Phillips fever."

"Mr. William T. Vineyard was taken violently ill last Monday evening. Dr. J. Wright was summoned and at this writing the patient is very much improved. The people of our town would be satisfied if our worthy county Commissioner would only allow us one half the work on our streets that he gives our sister towns.

"Washington camp, No. 8, P. O. S. of A. celebrated its first birthday last Wednesday evening. After the regular order of business and a few pleasant remarks, oysters, crackers, pickles and coffee were served in abundance.

TOWNSEND

Mrs. D. P. Hutchison visited Clayton Tuesday.

Miss Mary Money is visiting friends in Wilmington.

Mrs. George Stradley, of Clayton, visited town on Sunday.

Miss Lucy Beardsley spent several days in Philadelphia this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wells visited Philadelphia a few days this week.

Miss Winnie Price, of Still Pond, paid a short visit in town this week.

Mr. W. A. Lyman and sister, Miss Alma, spent Sunday with friends near Cecilton.

Mrs. D. B. Maloney returned home Monday after spending sometime in the Quaker City.

John Townsend and daughter, Misses Margaret and Myrtle, are visiting in Philadelphia.

Frederick, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sharp, died on Sunday last, after a lingering illness and consumption. The funeral was buried Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock; interment being made in the Townsend Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. John Davis, who have recently returned from their wedding tour, in which they visited Philadelphia, New York and New Haven, Conn., were tendered a reception at the home of Mrs. Parvis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Haymen. A large number of friends were present. Refreshments were served and dinner was provided by the Townsends.

Mr. Jacob Spicer, of Blackbird, invited a number of friends to join him in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of his birth last Saturday. Among the guests for dinner were Mr. Spicer's twin brother, Major H. F. Spicer and wife, of Philadelphia; his brother, Charles Spicer of Odessa, and his sister, and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. John G. Fife. The two brothers were born in a farm in Sussex County in 1841, and some years ago decided that so long as they both lived they would spend the anniversary of their birth together. Major H. F. Spicer, who is a weaver in the Philadelphia Mint, resides in Ardmore, Pa., where the next birthday anniversary will probably be celebrated.

"But though ardently devoted to peace this country has a mission and a responsibility. It has a special obligation in the Western Hemisphere. In this connection the President takes no back track. In all the dignity of a message to Congress he repeats the pregnant hints and admonitions of his breezy letter to the Cuban dinner last Spring." —*Philip. Press.*

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THE SUN

Baltimore, Md.

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ALL SUBSCRIBERS IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA, PENNSYLVANIA, DELAWARE, AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES CAN GET THE SUN BY MAIL AT 1 CENT A COPY.

THE SUN AT ONE CENT Is The Cheapest High-Class Paper In The United States.

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Its Washington and New York bureaus are among the best in the United States, and give THE SUN's readers the earliest information upon all important events in the legislative and financial centers of the country.

THE FARMER'S PAPER

THE SUN's market reports and commercial columns are complete and reliable, and put the farmer, the merchant and the broker in touch with the markets of Baltimore, Norfolk, Charleston, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and all other cities in the United States and other countries. All of which the reader gets for one cent.

THE WOMAN'S PAPER

THE SUN is a newspaper of high literary merit, morally and intellectually. In addition to the news of the day, it publishes the best features that can be presented, such as fashion articles, and miscellaneous writings from men and women of note and prominence. It is an educator of the highest character, constantly stimulating the ideals in individual and national life.

THE SUN is published on Sunday as well as every other day of the week.

By Mail the Daily Sun, \$3 a year; including the Sunday Sun, \$4. The Sunday Sun alone, \$1 a year.

Address A. S. ABELL COMPANY, Publishers and Proprietors, BALTIMORE.

WARWICK

Mrs. A. D. Short was the guest of Miss Minnie Smith on Sunday last.

Miss Estella Marsh left Warwick on Tuesday last for New York City.

Mr. A. Wilson Cochran was the guest of Mr. J. H. M. Garner on Sunday.

Mr. Harry C. Kirby is spending this week with Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Hall.

Mr. Wilson Merritt spent Wednesday with his mother, Mrs. Arabella Piser.

Quite a number of changes will be made among our town people during the coming year.

Senior Christian Endeavor prayer meeting to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock. All are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. George Moore removed from Chesapeake City to Warwick one day last week.

Our town people took advantage of the snow last Tuesday, there being many sleighs out.

Mrs. James Savin and children, of near Chesapeake City, were the guests of her parents last Sunday.

Mass at St. Francis Xavier R. C. Church to-morrow at the usual hour, Father Charles Crowley, pastor.

Mrs. John H. Price entertained Mrs. Sallie Gunkle and daughter, Miss Bessie, at her home near town last Friday.

We understand that our friend Mr. Joseph Sullivan who resides near town, is confined to his room, threatened with the grippe fever.

Mr. William T. Vineyard was taken violently ill last Monday evening. Dr. J. Wright was summoned and at this writing the patient is very much improved.

The people of our town would be satisfied if our worthy county Commissioner would only allow us one half the work on our streets that he gives our sister towns.

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NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS OF APPOQUINIMINK HUNDRED!

The taxable residents of Appoquinimink Hundred, and all persons liable to pay tax in said Hundred, are hereby notified that the Taxes for the year 1904 are now due and the undersigned Tax Collector for said Hundred, will sit

AT THE OFFICE OF GEORGE M. D. HART, IN TOWNSEND, DEL.

EVERY SATURDAY, FROM 2 to 5 o'clock, P. M., until further notice.

And all other days will be found at my residence near Odessa.

A discount of 3 per cent is allowed on all Taxes paid prior to December 1st,

next.

H. W. PHARO,

Collector of Taxes for St. Georges Hundred.

Citizen's NATIONAL BANK
OF MIDDLETON,
Middleton, Del., Dec. 8th, 1904.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION for Ten Directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the Banking House on SATURDAY, January 14th, 1905, between the hours of 10 o'clock, A. M., and 12 o'clock noon.

JOHN S. CROUCH, Cashier.

CITIZEN'S NATIONAL BANK
OF MIDDLETON,
Middleton, Del., Dec. 8th, 1904.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the stockholders for the election of Nine Directors to serve this Bank for the ensuing year will be held in the Banking House on Saturday, January 14th, 1905, between the hours of 10 o'clock, A. M., and 12 o'clock noon.

JOHN S. CROUCH, Cashier.

NOTICE--ELECTION !

THE PEOPLES' NATIONAL BANK
OF MIDDLETON,
Middleton, Del., Dec. 8th, 1904.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION for Ten Directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the Banking House on SATURDAY, January 14th, 1905, between the hours of 10 o'clock, A. M., and 12 o'clock noon.

JOHN S. CROUCH, Cashier.

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JOHN S. CROUCH, Cashier.

NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS OF St. Georges Hundred!

All Taxes for 1904 must be paid by the close of this month. After January 1st next all such bills remaining unpaid will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for collection by process of law. It is to be hoped that all delinquents will make an effort to avoid this unnecessary trouble and expense, paying up before the time limit.

Delinquent taxes may not be assessed this year, but will be enforced and each claim pushed to collection as it is reached on the list.

AT THE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, SOUTH BROAD STREET, EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

5 per cent will be added on all Taxes not paid by December 31st.

H. W. PHARO,

Collector of Taxes for St. Georges Hundred.

ABRAM STAATS,

Collector of Taxes for Blackbird Hundred.

The Middletown Transcript

Trains Leave Middletown as Follows.
North Bound—29, 7:48, 9:22 and 10:24 a. m.;
1:47 and 3:48 p. m.
South Bound—12:35, 8:21, 9:19 and 11:28 a. m.;
3:44 and 7:45 p. m.
Middle Close as Follows.
Going North—7:20 a. m., 10:05 a. m., 3:50 p. m.,
4:45 p. m. and 6 p. m.
Going South—4:15 p. m., 4:30 p. m. and 9 p. m.
For Odessa—7:50 a. m., 8:30 a. m., 11:30 a. m.,
4:50 p. m.
For Warwick, Cecilton and Earville 9:20 a. m.,
and 4:45 p. m.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL., DEC. 10, 1904.

Local News.

FULL LINE OF FRESH GROCERIES AT E. F. INGRAM'S.

CORBY'S WASHINGTON BREAD RECEIVED FRESH DAILY. JONES & BRADLEY.

DR. W. E. BARNARD, SURGEON DENTIST, office Southeast corner of Main and Scott streets.

A REMINDER—Have you paid your subscription to THE TRANSCRIPT? That's all!

FOR SALE—The property of the late R. W. Cochran on Green street. Apply to J. B. MESSICK.

The only way to know that you're getting Good Bread every time is to buy it from us. It's a guarantee of satisfaction. JONES & BRADLEY.

A full line of 12 ga. smokeless shot gun shells at S. E. MASKEY'S.

TRY OUR FAMOUS STEWS. JONES & BRADLEY'S.

Have you tried it? The best Buckwheat flour in town at EAN'S EXCHANGE STORE.

The first of January is a popular time to enter Goldey College. Write for the catalogue.

Old Kru has moved with JONES & BRADLEY to Middle Room in Opera House.

Dolls, Tables, Chairs, Rockers, Brooms, Games, etc., everything for the girls at JONES & BRADLEY'S.

A REMINDER—Have you paid your subscription to THE TRANSCRIPT? That's all!

SPECIAL SALE of millinery. 49 cents for the \$1.75 and \$2.00 ready-trimmed hats. Hand-made velvet hats from \$1.50 and up. All to go at a bargain. Mrs. G. W. PETERSON.

After October 1st the library will be open on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 o'clock, P. M., and on Saturdays from 3 to 5 o'clock and 7 to 8:30 o'clock, P. M.

OYSTERS by the Quart at JONES & BRADLEY'S.

WANTED—To rent a Farm of about 150 acres on shares. Can give the best of references. Apply to THIS OFFICE.

HORSE SHOEING—Plain, 75 cents cash. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. C. GREEN.

Santa Claus's opening day at JONES & BRADLEY'S, Middle Room in Opera House, Saturday, December 10th.

Shoe-lys, Rattles, tree trimmings, everything for baby at JONES & BRADLEY'S, Middle Room in Opera House.

NEW BARBER SHOP—I wish to announce to my friends and the public that I have opened up a first-class barber shop in the room on North Broad street formerly occupied by the Y. W. C. T. U., and will appreciate a share of the public patronage. WILLIAM McCRARY.

The Junior Auxiliary of St. Anne's Church will hold its Annual Bazaar in the Sunday School Room on Green Street, Saturday afternoon December 10th, from 1 to 6 o'clock. Fancy articles, home-made candy, ice cream and cake will be on sale. Special attention is called this year to the change of location and time of holding the Bazaar. Come and buy your Christmas presents!

FOR SALE—Thoroughbred cockerels, Black Minors, White Leghorn, Silver Spangled Hamburg, White Wyandottes, Barred Plymouth Rocks. Price \$1.00 to \$5.00 each.

E. J. STEEL, Henderson, Md.

Miss Cora Seaberry of New York will lecture at the M. E. Church on Wednesday, December 14th, at 7:30 P. M. Mrs. Seaberry is a National organizer of the W. C. T. U., and is a remarkably fluent speaker. She spoke here in the Spring, and all who heard her then will no doubt be anxious to hear her now. Her recitation "The Creed of the Bells" was so beautifully rendered that it alone is well worth going to hear. The public is cordially invited to hear her. Admission free.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS—The following list of letters remain unclaimed in the post office for the week ending December 1st. Miss Crissey M. Brown, Joney Anderson, Frank Bailey, Julian Cann, (special delivery) A. H. Green.

Unless the hens resume business in earnest, the Christmas supply of cake and egg-nog will run short. Few people can afford eggs at 35 cents and upwards per dozen.

This is a good time to start THE TRANSCRIPT for 1905. It will be sent from now until January 1st, 1906, for one dollar in advance. If you take it yourself, send it to a friend as a Christmas present.

Now that the time for the convening of the Delaware Legislature is drawing near, let the farmers see that a bill is drawn that will give them some rights as regards to the present obnoxious game law.

The matine enclure was pleasantly entertained by Misses Laura and Clara Willets Wednesday afternoon. Miss Laura Willets won first prize, and Mrs. C. J. Freeman second. Oysters, rolls, coffee, celery and olives were served.

We have landlord's notices to tenants, ready printed in legal form at this office. They only cost a trifle, and are much more convenient and accurate than the old way.

The evenings are now at their longest, the sun setting at 4:35 o'clock. In a few days the sun will begin to recede, by the middle of the month setting a few minutes later.

One of the best companies that have appeared in the Middletown Opera House for months was "Across the Rockies," which played to a small audience on Wednesday evening. It is a shame that so excellent an entertainment should be so poorly patronized.

A new cement floor now graces the front room of the Light and Water plant, which is a decided improvement to the interior of the building.

Five lot of tree trimmings at JONES & BRADLEY'S, Middle Room in Opera House.

PERSONALITIES

Mrs. C. T. Wyatt was in Philadelphia this week.

Mr. Norman Kumpel was in Philadelphia on Tuesday.

Mr. John A. Jolls was in Seafood on Thursday evening.

Mr. Frank L. Gates spent several days in New York this week.

Dr. R. A. Comegy, of Smyrna, spent Sunday with his parents.

H. C. Buckson and family visited relatives at Stanton on Sunday.

C. M. Riley spent Sunday with W. H. Barnett and daughter near town.

Mrs. Elsa Wilds, of Smyrna, was entertained by Mrs. J. C. Stites Sunday.

Mrs. William Asplil and son, William, spent part of last week in Wilmington.

Mrs. John Moore and son Townsend were Wilmington visitors on Thursday.

Mrs. George Hill and son Frank, returned from a visit to Wilmington relatives.

Mrs. H. C. Gray and daughter, Violet, were Wilmington visitors part of last week.

Prof. Clymer, of Wilmington, organized a class in vocal music here on Friday evening.

The Presbyterian Sunday School is rehearsing for its annual Christmas entertainment.

Mrs. J. B. Nelson and Mrs. Price, of Millington, Md., have been visiting Philadelphia.

Mrs. Clarence Jamison and son Clarence are spending this week with Philadelphia relatives.

Mrs. George Swain visited her daughter, Mrs. Samuel Lester, near Delaware City on Wednesday.

George Swain and wife on Sunday entertained their son-in-law, Eugene Gravatt and family, of Glasgow.

The remains of Samuel Warren, of near Middletown, were entered in St. Georges Cemetery on Thursday.

Mrs. Margaret Jackson, of London Grove is spending sometime with her daughter, Mrs. G. T. Hill.

Mrs. Ida Wright returned home on Wednesday after a week's visit to relatives near Summit Bridge.

Mrs. George Swain has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. William Haman, at State Road during this week.

Mrs. George Bright and her guest Mrs. Cox, of Philadelphia, were entertained by A. N. Sutton and family on Friday.

The Primary Department of the Public School are preparing for their Christmas entertainment which will be given on Friday afternoon, December 23d.

DEPARTMENT NO. 2

Mary Richards, Blanche Deakyne, Victor Walker, Benjamin Gibbs, Iola Buehm, Fannie McCrone, Helen Biggs, Nora Davis, Elsie Boulden, Allan Evans, Edith Jones.

DEPARTMENT NO. 3

A. Class—George Hukill, Lena Weber, Nellie Pyle, Emma Minner, Bertha Whiting.

B. Class—Leah Berkman, Deliah Muehlberg, Viola Weber, Rosie Weber, Rupert Burstan, Ruby Whitlock, Benjamin Denney, Earl Whitlock, John Hoffecker.

DEPARTMENT NO. 4

Charlotte Peverley, Sarah Kates, Grace Williams, Bessie Denney, Mary Sturges, Edith Eliason, Elizabeth Alexander, Tim Hukill, Lemont Jones, John Dickinson, Isaac Cleaver, Clifford Pyle, Perth Johnson, Bruce Whitlock.

CECILTON

George Oldham is spending this week in Port Deposit.

Miss Mamie Pierce is spending this week in Wilmington.

William Lyman, of Townsend, spent Sunday with Thomas Boulden.

Fred Hoover is the guest of Samuel Barnes of Rising Sun, this week.

Mr. Jones, of Philadelphia, is spending this week with M. P. Ferguson.

Mrs. Dolly Clayton and son John spent a few days with relatives in Middletown.

Robert Anderson, of Annapolis, is visiting his parents, Robert Anderson and wife.

Miss Helen Schrack and brother, of Germantown, Pa., are visiting Miss Emma Lusby.

Harold Whitehouse, of Wilmington, has been spending this week with Thomas Boulden.

Miss Daisy Hoover has returned from a visit to her brother, J. D. Hoover, of West Philadelphia.

John Morris and wife are spending this week with their daughter, Mrs. Thomas VanBuskirk, of Baltimore.

CLERICAL ORDERS FOR 1905

Pursuant to its usual custom, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will issue clerical orders for the year of 1905 to ordained clergymen having regular charge as settled pastors of churches located on or near its lines. Clergymen desiring such orders should make individual application for same on blanks furnished by the Company and which can now be obtained from the Ticket Agents. Applications should be sent to the General Office of the Company as soon as possible, in no case later than December 15th, so that orders may be mailed by December 30th, to all clergymen entitled to receive them.

NUMEROUS INVITATIONS

After its next session, which will be held in Grace Church, Wilmington, nine years will probably elapse before the Wilmington Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Conference again convenes there.

Eight towns desire to entertain the Conference, and it is likely that they will be the Conference seat as follows:

Pocono City, Md., 1906; Milford, 1907;

Smyrna, 1908; Salisbury, Md., 1909;

Seaford, 1910; Snow Hill, Md., 1911;

Dover, 1912; Chestertown, Md., 1913.

NO NEW REGISTRATION

"The first registration day in St. Georges hundred for qualifying voters prior to the special election for Representative on December 27th, made necessary because of a tie vote between F. J. Pennington and Jacob Emerson at the general election, was held on Saturday last. Not a man was registered. There will be another registration day on Saturday."

"In the Third district, Middletown, the registration officers went to the place designated, but finding no fire they left the place at 8 o'clock in the morning. This fact is to be reported to the judges, with a complaint against the registration officers there."—Evening Journal.

NO NEW REGISTRATION

The depth of water in Back Creek is

to be increased from 8 to 15 feet at low

water, if the suggestion of Congressman

Watches to the House, River and Harbor's Committee shall be made effective

in the next general appropriation bill.

At present vessels have great difficulty

in getting over Randall's bar. The creek

is near the entrance to the Chesapeake

and Delaware Canal.

CASH PAID FOR DRESSED HOGS

DELIVERED IN WILMINGTON

Write for prices.

NEW CASTLE PRESBYTERY MEET

An adjourned meeting of the New Castle Presbytery was held in Newark Church Tuesday. The principal business

was to dissolve the pastoral relations

between Rev. James C. McLean and

Gresham Hill Church and to receive Mr.

Warrington, of the Senior Class of Dela-

ware College, as a candidate for the minis-

ST. GEORGES

Mrs. Edna Lilly spent Saturday in Wil-

mington.

Mrs. Anna Bender spent last week at

her home in Port Penn.

Mrs. A. N. Sutton was a visitor in Wil-

mington on Wednesday.

Mrs. J. C. Stuckett, is paying a visit

to relatives in Wilmington.

H. C. Buckson and family visited rela-

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tives.

Mrs. H. C. Gray and daughter, Violet,

Thyra Trainer's Transformation

BY CECIL COUNTER

THYRA! Thyra! Thyra! The first two calls were delivered in the rising inflection—the last with an emphatic accentuation of the first syllable, and a lowering of tone upon the second, for the person hailed gave heed. It was a rich motherly voice that sounded thus full and clear upon the mid-morning air, and started a young girl who was hanging "wash" upon a line stretched athwart the garden.

But Thyra was not engaged at that particular moment in flinging flags of exquisite whiteness to the breeze of that luscious summer's day. Nor were her thoughts upon the emerald South Mountain, at whose foot nestled cozily the little village of Robesonia, or the distant Blue Mountain on the North of the charming valley—ever a thing of beauty. Her protracted stay in the garden, long after the contents of her basket had been spread upon the sagging rope, was due to the perusal of a stray leaf from a ladies' magazine that had leaped the fence at the impulse of the wind. The caption of a certain contribution on the simple page had attracted her attention, and she involuntarily turned over the leaf to see if the sketch was entire, and was gratified to find that it was not fragmentary, but that its value—little or large was all before her. However, at the urgent call of her mother, who wanted the clothes-basket, Thyra thrust the partially read scrap into her pocket, and hastened to the prosy tubs, diligently awaiting its discharge.

The new Thyra cultivated pity for human infirmities, and rigorously abstained from the criticisms that flow freely from one's lips. She sought for good motives, and praised well-meant acts. Far from chattering all day long her words were usually few, well selected, and spoken in a soft voice that proved singularly musical.

She sought time for reading elevating books, yet not at the expense of non-assistance to her mother, whom she relieved at every possible point of service. How promptly she discharged the house-holds, how soon the "reading-up," as Madge termed it, was performed. How speedily the dishes were washed and placed in the tidy cupboard, and the house set to rights. Sweetly sociable as Thyra was, she did not permit herself to hob nob with her neighbors until her tasks were complete.

And as to body culture, the very exercises in which she was engaged promoted that. Besides, the virtues of a daily wash from top to toe in water of an agreeable temperature, although the house was innocent of a bath-room, the steady persistent brushing of the recalcitrant hair, the proper care of the hands and nails in the performance of unpleasant culinary work, or house-cleaning, the brushing of pearly teeth with soap and water, the cultivation of a pure breath by the use of proper food and the constant ventilation, night and day, of the living and sleeping apartments, wrought wonders in Thyra's appearance.

If Reba Litzenberg, Rose Ruby, Madge Kircher and Martha Schaff had seen their chum poring over an article of such presumptuous caliber they would have been unanimously agreed as to its appropriateness, for each of them had more than one occasion given vent to the exclamation, "Poor Thyra!" while thinking of her unattractive face. And the expression was sincere, for average maidenhood is sympathetic and compassionate—especially when the placid waters of personal reflection are undisturbed by the ripples of jealousy.

It was only too true that Thyra Trainer was "as plain as a pike-staff," or even, to quote that older coiner of pat and enduring phrase, Thomas Middleton, as a "pack-staff," if that be any plainer.

At least that was the verdict of Thyra's girl friends, and must be accepted as accurate, for is not the feminine eye the true criterion of female beauty?

Verily, nature was not in an aesthetic mood when she molded the form of our heroine. She was dump of figure and freckled of face; her nose was endowed with a resistless propensity to flatten itself against its background; her red hair was shocky and apparently uncontrollable; while her hands and feet, evidently designed upon the law of the contraries, were out of all proportion to the under-sized body. Then, too—and it was a fatal lack in the eyes of certain connoisseurs of beauty—Thyra had no dowry.

It is in vain to disguise the fact that the love that laughs at locksmiths was a factor in the philosophic sightings of Thyra's sympathizers. No matter what the era, be it that of Eden, or the dawn of the Twentieth Century of the Epoch of Grace, love is potent and even supreme in mundane affairs. Each of the quartette of Thyra's intimates was susceptible to the tender passion—not "deeply, devotedly, madly"—for they were eminently sensible girls, but Rose and Reba, Madge and Martha, had their romantic fancies, and even poor little ugly-faced Thyra was not unimpassable.

Reba, the regal in form and manner, had mentally enumerated the few eligibles in the village, dwelling upon their various excellencies, yet unconsciously focalizing her thoughts upon Frank Dundore, a newly graduated votary of Escapulias. Rose found much to admire in Fred Gerhart, the harness-maker, but her thoughts would strangely revert to the young physician. Madge accepted the courtesies of Valentine Refenyder, and Martha those of William Wessels, both store-clerks, but, alack-a-day, I fear that Doctor Dundore might have had either of them for the asking.

And what about innocent little Thyra?

Her sensitive spirit had never known a period when she was not conscious of her helplessness, and she had never indulged the hope of a friendship deeper and of her person, too. Well did she know of some redeeming features of Thyra's personal appearance, but she kept them to herself. However, it was undeniable that Thyra was taking on a real, if quiet, beauty these days. Her hair had become an adornment; her eyes, always fine, had improved with the betterment of her nature, and her insistent tidiness was perpetually commendatory. Actually, Thyra was coming to possess in small degree the very charm that the magazine scrap indicated.

The summer days had given place to the advanced fall. Far away the noted hills of the Blue range were tinted, as always, with their delicate shade, but the nearer wall of the South Mountain was purple, for the leaves so recently glorious in red and gold had all fallen to the rocky slope beneath the trees. Robesonia was scarcely as winsome in her early winter dream as in the fullness of spring, or the maturity of summer, but the village was still very attractive. The big furnaces perpetually engaged in smelting iron ore, puffed away in the rear of the little town, and matters went on as usual.

FUNNY FIGURES

Professor Rangler, who dreams in figures, has evolved the following curious specimen of figure gymnastics:

1 time 9 plus 2 equals 11.
12 times 9 plus 3 equals 111.
123 times 9 plus 4 equals 1111.
12345 times 9 plus 6 equals 11111.
123456 times 9 plus 7 equals 111111.
1234567 times 9 plus 8 equals 1111111.
12345678 times 9 plus 9 equals 11111111.

1 time 5 plus 1 equals 9.
12 times 8 plus 2 equals 98.
123 times 8 plus 5 equals 987.
1234 times 8 plus 4 equals 9876.
12345 times 8 plus 5 equals 98765.
123456 times 8 plus 6 equals 987654.
1234567 times 8 plus 7 equals 9876543.
12345678 times 8 plus 8 equals 98765432.
123456789 times 8 plus 9 equals 987654321.

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The rest? Oh, that is an old, old story. That winter's morning was long, long ago. Mrs. Frank Dundore is a very happy and reverent wife and mother. Her eldest girl resembles her in many respects, yet, strange to say, is destitute of those peculiar features that were once counted so highly in the case of her mother. And Mrs. Rose Gerhart, Mrs. Madge Refenyder, Mrs. Martha Wessels—as well as Miss Reba Litzenberg, who never married—regard Mrs. Thyra Dundore as one of the best-looking women in Robesonia, or for that matter in the township itself; but, however, it was undeniable that Thyra was taking on a real, if quiet, beauty these days. Her hair had become an adornment; her eyes, always fine, had improved with the betterment of her nature, and her insistent tidiness was perpetually commendatory. Actually, Thyra was coming to possess in small degree the very charm that the magazine scrap indicated.

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tumbers of jelly, cakes, fruit and cooked viands, which Thyra relished heartily, although laughingly insisting that she was not worthy of such ministrations, not being sick.

She proved a trifling troublesome to her mother, because she persisted in her much-prized physical culture, despite her lameness; still, the good woman solaced herself with viewing its beneficial effects upon her child, whose loveliness was enhanced rather than diminished by the wearing of a simple but tasteful negligee.

The weeks wore on, and Thyra was still confined to the house, for the perverse obstinate sprain was reduced but slowly, despite the doctor's untiring attention. But finally the improvement in her ankle became so pronounced that she declared that she was no longer in need of a physician's superintendence. Moreover, as had been hinted, the means of the Trainees were but slender, and the presentation of the medical bill was not regarded without solicitude. Nevertheless, Thyra discovered regret at the anticipation of the discontinuance of the doctor's visits, which had been very agreeable in a social way. The new world in which she now lived was brightened by his edifying thoughts and enteraining words, and in truth he was the only person in the village who seemed to be in exact sympathy with her high ambitions in mental development.

One morning there was a knock at the front door, and Mrs. Trainer had gone to the stairs. Thyra hastened her convalescence by limping forward and admitting—Doctor Dundore. When his name was mentioned, she covered her eyes with her hand, and burst into tears.

"I am very much afraid that I will think my charge entirely too great."

Thyra was troubled, for she recollects the apprehensions entertained by herself and her mother, but she promptly replied, "I know that I cannot repay you in money, but whatever the amount may be I will pay it soon as possible; it is not so much in the house it will be procured in a little while."

The young man was visibly embarrassed, but, remembering the old maxim about "faint hearts and fair ladies," and aware in fear that Mrs. Trainer might appear upon the scene, stammered, "Thyra, my charge is very, very great; no sum of money can cover it; I—I ask yourself in return, that I may wait upon you forever!"

It was gallantly said, but the young girl was astounded; perhaps the conviction of her extreme personal plainness had become so deep-rooted that she had quite resigned herself to a spinster's honorable fate—at all events, in her surprise and confusion she feebly revealed her self-consciousness in this direction; but her lover, catching the drift of her thoughts and intuitively perceiving a vantage ground, put forth the courage of hope, and, pressing her to his heart, said, "I am employing a phrase she never forgot—"Thyra, my beautiful!"

Alas, Mrs. Trainer did arrive at the very juncture when she was least prepared; but, bewildered though she was by certain unexpected appearances, she had sufficient perception of the situation to retire upon some imaginary errand to the kitchen.

It was surprising that Thyra's "ugliness" vanished by degrees? It faded slowly, at first imperceptibly, but steadily, as a new expression supplanted it.

And by the girls began to remark to each other, "How nice Thyra looks nowadays!"

She had not permitted herself to be called "poor Thyra" again since the day of her transformation.

Her mother, however, was not so easily deceived.

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